

I. Amendments to the Specification

Please add the following new paragraph at page 1, after the title of the invention:

This application is a 35 U.S.C. 371 filing of International Application No. PCT/US03/040378, filed December 18, 2003, which claims the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/435,919, filed December 20, 2002.

Please add the following new paragraph as new page 16:

ABSTRACT

Embodiments of the present invention are directed to methods and kits for the generation of double stranded RNA by RNA dependent RNA polymerases. The methods and kits feature exponential generation of such RNAs through simple steps/ The RNA is suitable for interference with expression in cells.